

City of Las Vegas

AGENDA MEMO

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING DATE: JANUARY 8, 2009

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

ITEM DESCRIPTION: GPA-32130 – APPLICANT/OWNER: CITY OF LAS VEGAS

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

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**** STAFF REPORT ****

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This is a request to amend the trail alignment maps of the Master Plan Transportation Trails and Recreation Trails Elements to revise various trail alignments both within the city limits and in unincorporated areas.

Map Number 2 of the Transportation Trails Element is proposed to be amended to reflect new downtown trail alignments and portions of downtown trails that will be realigned. In addition, this request proposes to eliminate all recreation trail alignments on this map. The recreation trail alignments should only be shown on Map Number 2 of the Recreation Trails Element.

Map Number 2 of the Recreation Trails Element is proposed to be amended to incorporate Clark County's approved priority equestrian trails and rural neighborhood preservation equestrian trails into the trail network. As many of the County's alignments have moved away from arterial streets, some equestrian trail segments within city limits that connected to the old alignments are proposed to be eliminated. Additionally, equestrian crossings will be shown on Map Number 2 to indicate existing and proposed access across the Bruce Woodbury Beltway (CC 215) and to public lands west of the city limits.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

<i>Related Relevant City Actions by P&D, Fire, Bldg., etc.</i>	
Month/date/year	Action
01/02/02	The City Council accepted the terms of an interlocal agreement between the city of Las Vegas and the County of Clark for establishing a joint position on corporate boundaries, planning, public facilities/service provision and future annexations.
01/16/02	The City Council approved Ordinance No. 5417 adopting the Transportation Trails Element of the Las Vegas 2020 Master Plan.
01/16/02	The City Council approved Ordinance No. 5418 adopting the Recreation Trails Element of the Las Vegas 2020 Master Plan.
11/20/02	The City Council approved a General Plan Amendment (GPA-0034-02) to amend Map Number 2 of the Transportation Trails Element of the Master Plan and Map Number 2 of the Recreation Trails Element of the Master Plan to bring the Elements into compliance with the Interlocal Agreement seamless trails plan. The Planning Commission and staff recommended approval.

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08/18/04	The City Council approved a General Plan Amendment (GPA-3933) to amend Map Number 2 of the Transportation Trails Element of the Master Plan to revise trail alignments to be consistent with the Regional Transportation Commission's "Non-Motorized Alternative Transportation Mode Master Plan." The Planning Commission and staff recommended approval.
12/01/04	The City Council approved a General Plan Amendment (GPA-5157) to amend The Transportation Trails and Recreation Trails Elements of the Master Plan to re-designate portions of proposed alignments in developed areas as Pedestrian Paths and to revise cross sections. The Planning Commission and staff recommended approval.
12/20/05	The Board of County Commissioners approved the "Northwest Las Vegas Priority Trails" map for unincorporated areas of Clark County.
02/07/07	The City Council approved a General Plan Amendment (GPA-18403) to amend Map Number 2 of the Transportation Trails Element of the Master Plan to realign the Cultural Corridor Trail. The Planning Commission and staff recommended approval.
02/05/08	The Board of County Commissioners approved the "Rural Neighborhood Preservation Area Priority Trails" maps for unincorporated areas of Clark County.
12/03/08	The City Council approved an updated interlocal agreement between the city of Las Vegas and County of Clark for establishing a joint position on corporate boundaries, planning, public facilities/service provision and future annexations. The agreement directs the city and the county to update the Joint Parks and Trails Plan to reflect the County's priority trail facilities.
01/08/09	The Planning Commission will consider a Text Amendment (TXT-32131) to amend the Downtown Centennial Plan to update and revise trail alignments in the downtown area. Staff recommended approval.
<i>Pre-Application Meeting</i>	
N/A	A pre-application meeting was not required for this application, nor was one held.
<i>Neighborhood Meeting</i>	
12/15/08	A neighborhood meeting was held at the Development Services Center, 731 South Fourth Street to discuss the proposed changes to the trail alignments. No members of the public attended.

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ANALYSIS

Transportation Trails Element Amendments

Map Number 2 of the Transportation Trails Element of the Las Vegas 2020 Master Plan describes the type and location for all off-street transportation trail alignments. This includes those alignments designated as Pedestrian Paths and urban trails in the downtown area. This amendment proposes to add, remove or amend downtown transportation trail segments as indicated in the table below:

Action	Alignment	From	To
Add segment designated as Tortoise Trail	Main Street	Charleston Boulevard	Colorado Avenue
Add segment designated as Tortoise Trail	Colorado Avenue	Main Street	Third Street
Remove segment designated as Art Trail	A portion of First Street	Garces Avenue	South of Bonneville Avenue
Remove segment of existing Bonanza-Library Trail	Fourth Street	Stewart Avenue	Casino Center Boulevard
Re-designate segment of existing Bonanza-Library Trail as the Cultural Corridor Trail	Veterans Memorial Drive	Bonanza Road	Las Vegas Boulevard (at the Las Vegas Library)

A separate action (TXT-32131) will amend the Las Vegas Downtown Centennial Plan to update the downtown trail alignments in that document as indicated here.

This request also proposes to amend Map Number 2 of the Transportation Trails Element to eliminate all recreation trail alignments that were introduced in the map update of December 1, 2004 (GPA-5157). The recreation alignments are already indicated on Map Number 2 of the Recreation Trails Element and therefore do not need to be shown on this map.

No changes to the text of the Transportation Trails Element are proposed at this time.

Recreation Trails Element Amendments

Map Number 2 of the Recreation Trails Element of the Las Vegas 2020 Master Plan describes the type and location for all off-street equestrian trail alignments. All of the alignments are located in the northwest portion of the city.

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Many of the existing city alignments connect to equestrian trails in unincorporated areas as agreed between the city and County in the Northwest Interlocal Agreement and shown in the Joint Parks and Trails Plan of January 2, 2002. However, Clark County recently approved changes to equestrian trail alignments in unincorporated areas in response to a feasibility study that recommended equestrian trails in several Rural Neighborhood Preservation areas. As a result, most of the Joint Parks and Trails Plan alignments in unincorporated areas shown along arterial streets were shifted to nearby rural streets. In the recently approved update to the Northwest Interlocal Agreement, the City and County have agreed to update the Joint Parks and Trails Plan to incorporate the County's approved priority trail segments in a separate action. After the priority trails maps were approved by the Board of County Commissioners, a residential development was approved that altered the existing alignment along Conquistador Street between Dorrell Lane and Deer Springs Way. The trail will run along the south side of Dorrell to a point approximately 330 feet east, then turn southward approximately 640 feet to Haley Avenue, then eastward to Jensen Street, then south to Deer Springs Way. The trail will then connect to the city's existing alignment at Grand Canyon Drive. This amendment (GPA-32130) will incorporate the County's approved priority trails into the Recreation Trails Element, as well as the altered Conquistador Street alignment.

In some cases, removal of the existing alignments in unincorporated areas left some existing city equestrian trail alignments without a connection to other trails. Therefore, this amendment proposes to remove several segments from Map Number 2 of the Recreation Trails Element. The existing equestrian trail alignment along Torrey Pines Drive continues to serve the area and connect to city trails.

Several equestrian trail segments are proposed to be added to Map Number 2. They are intended to provide safe access across the Bruce Woodbury Beltway and to public lands west of the city limits. The proposed future construction of an interchange at CC 215 and Centennial Parkway will accommodate these segments.

The proposed additions and amendments to equestrian trail alignments within the city of Las Vegas are summarized in the table below:

Action	Alignment	From	To
Add crossing	Hualapai Way at CC 215	N/A	N/A
Add crossing	Centennial Parkway at CC 215	N/A	N/A
Add crossing	Alexander Road at CC 215	N/A	N/A
Remove existing segment	Rainbow Boulevard	Grand Teton Drive	Whispering Sands Drive

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Remove existing segment	Rainbow Boulevard	Farm Road	Elkhorn Road
Remove existing segment	Elkhorn Road	Rainbow Boulevard	Rio Vista Street
Remove existing segment	Rio Vista Street	Elkhorn Road	Haley Avenue

No changes to the text of the Recreation Trails Element are proposed at this time.

FINDINGS

Section 19.18.030.I of the Las Vegas Zoning Code requires that the following conditions be met in order to justify a General Plan Amendment:

1. The density and intensity of the proposed General Plan Amendment is compatible with the existing adjacent land use designations,
2. The zoning designations allowed by the proposed amendment will be compatible with the existing adjacent land uses or zoning districts,
3. There are adequate transportation, recreation, utility, and other facilities to accommodate the uses and densities permitted by the proposed General Plan Amendment; and
4. The proposed amendment conforms to other applicable adopted plans and policies that include approved neighborhood plans.

In regard to Conditions 1 through 3, this request does not impact density or intensity of uses. It is intended to more effectively implement the Transportation Trails Element and the Recreation Trails Element. The proposed amendments will have no impact on existing development and only minor requirements for future development. In regard to Condition 4, the amendments will be reflected in the Downtown Centennial Plan and the Joint Parks and Trails Plan, with cooperation from Clark County.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS NOTIFIED

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ASSEMBLY DISTRICT N/A

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SENATE DISTRICT N/A

NOTICES MAILED NEWSPAPER ONLY

APPROVALS 0

PROTESTS 0